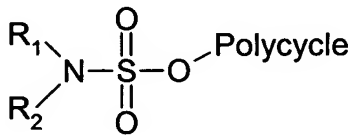
IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claims, without prejudice, without admission, without surrender of subject matter, and without any intention of creating any estoppel as to equivalents, to read as follows:

1-5. (Cancelled)

6. (Currently Amended) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and a compound of the formula



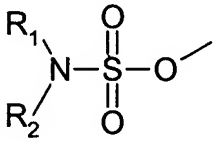
wherein each of R_1 and R_2 is independently selected from H, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl and aryl; wherein at least one of R_1 and R_2 is H; and

wherein the group Polycycle is a steroidal ring system comprising at least four rings, at least two of which are fused;

wherein the compound is an inhibitor of an enzyme having steroid sulphatase activity (E.C.3.1.6.2);

wherein if the sulphamate group on the compound were to be replaced with a sulphate group to form a sulphate compound and incubated with a steroid sulphatase enzyme (E.C.3.1.6.2) at a pH 7.4 and 37°C it would provide a K_m value of less than 50 μM.

7. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier or diluent and a compound comprising a steroidal ring structure and a sulphamate group of the formula



wherein each of R_1 and R_2 is independently selected from H, alkyl, alkenyl, cycloalkyl and aryl; wherein at least one of R_1 and R_2 is H; and

wherein the compound is an inhibitor of an enzyme having steroid sulphatase activity

(E.C.3.1.6.2);

wherein if the sulphamate group on the compound were to be replaced with a sulphate group to form a sulphate compound and incubated with a steroid sulphatase enzyme (E.C.3.1.6.2) at a pH 7.4 and 37°C it would provide a K_m value of less than 50 μM.

8. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition of claim 7 wherein the compound is present in an amount to provide 100-500 mg of compound per unit dose.

9. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6, wherein the group Polycycle is a ring system comprising at least four rings, at least three of which are fused.

10. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7, wherein the steroidal ring structure is a residue of a 3-sterol.

11. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 10, wherein the sterol is selected from the group consisting of oestrone, dehydroepiandrosterones, substituted oestrones and substituted dehydroepiandrosterones.

12. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 6 to 11 wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from H, or a C_1-C_{10} alkyl; but wherein at least one of R_1 and R_2 is H.

13. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from H, or C_1-C_5 alkyl; but wherein at least one of R_1 and R_2 is H.

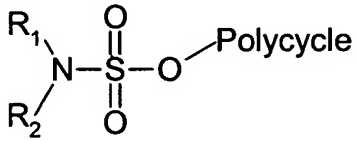
14. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 13 wherein R_1 and R_2 are independently selected from H or methyl; but wherein at least one of R_1 and R_2 is H.

15. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 12 wherein R_1 is H and R_2 is H.

16. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to any one of claims 7 or 8 wherein the compound is oestrone 3-sulphamate, oestrone-3-N,N-dimethylsulphamate, or oestrone-3-N-monoethylsulphamate.

17. (Previously Presented) The pharmaceutical composition according to claim 6 wherein the group Polycycle represents the residue of a sterol.

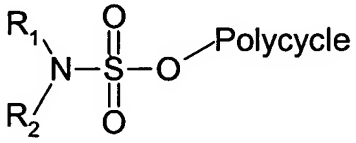
18. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 wherein the compound is a compound of the formula



wherein the group Polycycle represents the residue of a sterol, and wherein R_1 and R_2 are as defined in claim 7.

19. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 17 or 18, wherein the sterol is a 3-sterol.

20. (Previously Presented) A pharmaceutical composition according to claim 7 wherein the compound is a compound of the formula



wherein the group Polycycle represents the residue of a 3-sterol, and wherein R_1 and R_2 are H.